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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Rabbani et al.)
Serial No.: 08/978,637) Group Art Unit: 1635
Filed: November 25, 1997) Examiner: Mary M. Schmidt
For: COMPOSITION OF MATTER)
COMPRISING PRIMARY NUCLEIC)
ACID COMPONENT)
(As Previously Amended))

527 Madison Avenue (9th Floor)
New York, New York 10022
August 17, 1999

FILED BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.115
(IN RESPONSE TO THE FEBRUARY 17, 1999 OFFICE ACTION)

Dear Sirs:

In connection with their above-identified application, Applicants are submitting this Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.115 in response to the Office Action mailed on February 17, 1999 in connection with the above-identified application. This Amendment is being accompanied by a Request For An Extension Of Time (3 months) and authorization for the small entity fee therefor. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited today with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Ronald C. Fedus

Reg. No. 32,567

AUG 17 1999

Date